



# The Potter Yachter

Newsletter of the Longest Lasting West Wight Potter Club in the World

Nov/Dec 2020

## Annual Meeting via Zoom – Sunday, December 13

Covid-19 forces meeting to go virtual



As usual, we'll have an annual meeting to discuss the upcoming year's business. However, unusual circumstances have forced the temporary closure of our usual meeting location, so you're hereby invited to attend the meeting virtually via ZOOM at **10am on Sunday, December 13**. You'll have two opportunities to test out your computer, iPhone, tablet, or other device to work out the kinks: Friday, Dec. 4 and Friday, Dec 11 between 4:30pm and 6pm on both days. We'll have "tech support" available to help you figure out (See *Meeting* continued on page 3)

### Ship's Stores for sale. Order from Kevin Crowder:

Show your colors! Fly an official Club Burgee on your next sail!

Burgees	\$25.00
Bumper stickers	\$ 2.50 (just shows the burgee; no text)
Patches	\$ 2.50 (Both round and burgee shaped)
Info Packets	\$20.00 (Primarily P-15 information)

Or head over to the CafePress website and buy a Cap, Stein, or T-Shirt with the club logo on it.

Visit: <http://www.cafepress.com/potteryachters>

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## The Commodore's Corner



By Eric Zilbert

As 2020 comes to a close I have one major reflection to share: **Strange year.** Very, very, strange. We started out with a great annual meeting, where we set up an ambitious sailing calendar and began making plans for a year full of great sailing at great locations with great company. Now, we did pull off quite a few sails, the locations were all fantastic, and the company excellent as usual. We ate pretty well, too. But it was not as great a year as we had hoped for.

We had an admittedly slow start due to weather. A first-ever overnight at the Oakland Yacht Club was cancelled (though I understand a number of members made it for breakfast), and the planned St. Patrick's Day event at the Coyote Yacht Club was rained out as well. Of course, the real trouble started just *after* St. Pat's day, when **Covid 19** (not a new type of small sloop) showed up and turned our lives upside down.

Talk about a reset! We have all had to change many things about the way we work, play, go to school, and most of all, socialize. Our web guru and newsletter editor, Phil Marcelis, took the initiative and brought us together on the web through Friday Zoom Cocktail Hours (actually a little longer than that). This has been instrumental in keeping the club together and has even allowed those not participating in the sails we did have to share in the dockside gatherings, albeit remotely.

Hopefully, things will improve in 2021. We will be having our annual meeting in December this year. We will once again plan for a full year of sailing.

As I write this, however, most of Northern California has fallen back into the purple tier with respect to Covid 19. This is the most severe and restrictive tier. Also, things are probably going to get worse thanks to the Holidays. I implore everyone to be very careful and avoid sharing air with people you don't usually share air with.

We will sail in 2021, I am sure of it, and I believe that we may even get back to something more like normal in the summer and fall. We have shown that socially distanced sailing can be done safely, as demonstrated by the seven or eight excursions that took place after the pandemic became an issue.

Yes, we will sail on! But I will no longer be Commodore. I have decided that three terms is enough, and that it is time to let another of our number take the helm and lead us into those better days that are sure to come.

Fair Winds in 2021! -Eric — 


### Club Events on the Horizon

[See the Online Calendar](#)

Dec 13 (Sun)      Annual Meeting – 10am to 1pm via ZOOM      (Eric Z)  
*election of officers; attempt will be made at setting a sailing calendar (see proposed calendar in this issue); OYC closed; check the [trailer sailor West Wight Potter forum](#) for last minute details; this meeting will be held only via Zoom ([Meeting ID: 102 404 993 - pw: 004259](#)) (test your Zoom setup at 5pm on Friday, Dec. 11. E-mail [editor@potter-yachters.org](mailto:editor@potter-yachters.org) for help.)*

(Meeting continued from page 1)

how to get it working. (See “Club Events” on previous page and click on Meeting ID. Send an email to [editor@potter-yachters.org](mailto:editor@potter-yachters.org) if you’re having trouble getting started.)

Our Zoom account lets us host up to 100 participants for an entire day, if necessary. Please do try to attend if you’re able, especially if you’re a new member. (We’d like to meet you!!) Among the normal agenda items, we will have election of officers and an attempt to set the schedule of sailing dates. — 

[email Eric Zilbert or [editor@potter-yachters.org](mailto:editor@potter-yachters.org) to comment on the sailing calendar –Ed.].

### Potter Yachter 2021 Draft Sailing Schedule\*

February 20-21	Richmond	Eric Zilbert
March 13 -14	South Bay Sail	Dave Kautz
April 10-11	Benicia Overnight	Goose
May 1-2	Moss Landing Sail	Bud Kerner
May 22-23	Delta Sail (location TBD)	Jerry Barrilleaux
June 19-20	Union Valley Reservoir	Kevin Crowder
July 10-11	Loch Lomand Sail	Goose
July 31-August 1	Cruiser Challenge XXI Monterey CA	Dana Suverkrop Eric Zilbert
August 14-15	Lake Hennessey	Rich McDevitt
August 28-29	Angel Island	Jon Barber
September 11-12	Tomales Bay	Eric Zilbert
October 2-3	Moss Landing to Monterey	Bud Kerner
October 23-24	Bridges Sail	Bud Kerner

\*All dates and coordinators unconfirmed.

#### Officer's Club

**Commodore:**

Eric Zilbert

[Commodore@potter-yachters.org](mailto:Commodore@potter-yachters.org)P-19, #629, *Riptide*
**Vice Commodore:**

Rob Sampson

[Vice-Commodore@potter-yachters.org](mailto:Vice-Commodore@potter-yachters.org)P-15, #367, *Espero*
**Newsletter Editor:**

Phil Marcelis

[Newsletter@potter-yachters.org](mailto:Newsletter@potter-yachters.org)P-19, #1487, *Family Time*
**P-15 Fleet Captain:**

David Bacon

[P15-fleet@potter-yachters.org](mailto:P15-fleet@potter-yachters.org)P-15, #2636, *Ah Tiller the Fun*
**P-19 Fleet Captain:**

Goose Gossman

[P19-fleet@potter-yachters.org](mailto:P19-fleet@potter-yachters.org)P-19, *ReGale*
**Webmaster:**

Phil Marcelis

[Webmaster@potter-yachters.org](mailto:Webmaster@potter-yachters.org)
**Secretary/Treasurer:**

Kevin Crowder

[Treasurer@potter-yachters.org](mailto:Treasurer@potter-yachters.org)ComPac19, *Aurora***Website:** [www.potter-yachters.org](http://www.potter-yachters.org)**Facebook:** [fb.me/PotterYachters](https://fb.me/PotterYachters)

## BLAST FROM THE PAST



Carol Mangels cried "UNCLE" & introduced officer positions in April 1980:

"I've enjoyed being organizer/secretary-treasurer/sometime-newsletter-writer/historian for the last two years. But it's time to divide these responsibilities among the group.

Listed below are the officers I think the Potter Yachters should elect on a yearly basis.

**Commodore:** Doesn't do anything, just makes sure somebody ELSE does everything!

1. Represents the club. Handles phone calls and inquiries to the Potter Yachters (from prospective boat owners, etc.)
2. Makes sure a newsletter is sent out each month by the secretary.
3. Makes sure the other officers do their jobs.

**Secretary/Treasurer:**

1. Finds someone to write and type the newsletter each month. (Does NOT personally write the newsletter, unless desired.)
2. Mails out the newsletter every month.
3. Keeps an up-to-date mailing list.
4. Keeps track of the club's money.

**Historian:**


1. Keeps the picture album up-to-date (yes, we already have one).
2. Keeps the file of miscellany (yes, there already is one), such as Potter magazine/newspaper articles, bumper stickers, tide charts, etc."

Curious about who past commodores and vice-commodores were? I looked at old newsletters and listed them:

	<u>Commodore</u>	<u>Vice-Commodore</u>
2017-2020	Eric Zilbert	Rob Sampson
2015-2016	Rob Sampson	Carl Sundholm
2012-2014	Carl Sundholm	(2012-2013)Rich McDevitt, (2014)Rob Sampson
2009-2011	Bud Kerner	(2009-2010)Bruce Hood, (2011)Rich McDevitt
2007-2008	Dick Herman	Bruce Hood
2006	Dory Taylor	(none listed in newsletters)
2005	Bruce Hood	(none listed in newsletters)
2003-2004	Rich McDevitt	(none listed in newsletters)
2000-2002	Judy Blumhorst	(2000)none listed, (2001-2002)Bruce Hood
1998-1999	Jerry Barrilleaux	Larry Costa, (Staff Commodore)Maurice Lieberman
A note in the Jan-1999 meeting minutes stated "position of vice commodore was created to co-ordinate sail plans with the sail captains".		
1997	Maurice Lieberman	(none listed in newsletters)
1994-1996	Jerry Barrilleaux	(none listed in newsletters)
1993	John Simpson	(none listed in newsletters)
1992	John Ockes	(none listed in newsletters)
1991	Candy Hogan	(none listed in newsletters)
1990	David Hogan	(nobody volunteered to be vice commodore)
1989	Terry Gotcher	(Vice Commodore & Editor)Gwen Singh
1988	Gwen Singh	Don Bernreuter
1987	John Simpson	Don Bernreuter (election was held in March)
1986	Bill Sprietsma	Rob McClain (election was held in April)
1985	Michael Bartunek	Ray Monroy (election was held in April)
1984	Bill Sprietsma	(none listed in newsletters)
1983	Barbara Simpson	(election was held in April)
1982	Jerry Barrilleaux	(election was held in April)
1981	Don Bergst	(election was held in April)
1980	Stan Butler	(Sec/Treas)Jerry Barrilleaux, (Historian)Don Bergst



## 2021 Photo Calendar

As the available pictures from this year's sailing events are few and some of those have low pixel counts and the distribution would be difficult (since we're not getting together physically for the annual meeting), the calendar committee decided that not publishing a photo calendar might be best this year. — 




Here's a sample of some photos that were under consideration for the calendar





**Happy Thanksgiving to all!** Another year has gone by; in some ways, seemingly quicker than other years because time on the water was so short, but in other ways the pandemic seemed to make the year longer as we waited impatiently for the next sailing day. But we can be thankful.

As the editor, I'd like to thank everyone who sent photos or stories or even just a quick email of encouragement for my work on the newsletter. When the sail hosts send me a list of attendees along with some photos and a few anecdotes from the get-together, it really makes my job so much easier. And when I don't personally attend a sail to gather that information, it's the only thing that gets the news into the newsletter for others to read and enjoy. Thanks again to everyone, and let's hope 2021 is spectacular!

-Phil (the editor) — 



Phil sails his recently acquired Catalina 22 wing keel

**News** from  
**the forum**

## Outboard Charger or Solar?

A Thread Posted in Nov 2020

**Dioxinman52-** I'm thinking about installing a charging kit on my 5 hp Honda outboard. It supposedly delivers 5 hp at full throttle. Has anyone installed such a kit on their outboard? Are they worth the trouble?

**Phil-** The kit is \$300 and realistically makes 25-watts. Get a 25-watt solar panel that fits nicely on the forward hatch at a cost of \$100, including the solar panel and an MPPT charger for plenty of silent power even while at anchor.



The Newpowa-25 is 18" by 14" and fits the forward hatch of the P19. I hold it down with a pair of Thumb Lock® MRV-200 SuperGrips™ on the forward edge. The instructions say that if four corners are used, the SuperGrips can hold up to 200 pounds. I was going to put 4 straps on, but the store only had a single package of one pair... and it turns out that it doesn't need more than that even going 65 mph down the freeway. The double-sided tape has tenaciously survived at least two years of rain and seawater without showing signs of letting go, although you can screw it down if you want.

[For more photos and further discussion, see the [postings on Trailer Sailor's website](#). – Ed.]




Subject: **Look what I bought**  
From: **George Corrigan**


2001 P19 in pretty good shape. Goose had a hand in this new adventure.



I did some work on the keel raising tackle. It goes up and down smooth and silent. However, there is one question other P19ers might help me with. The ratchet function on the winch does not work. The winch was stiff and noisy so I lubricated it. The ratchet gear now spins around easily with the appropriate clicking sound if I reach in there and spin it with my hand but it does not engage as (I think) it should when raising or lowering the keel. It appears the ratchet function is necessary when lowering the keel so that it does not slip down uncontrolled if the winch handle is let go. Am I right about the proper function here?

Any ideas as to how to fix this? Please pass this on to other P19 owners if you think someone might have insight into this problem. — 



My name is Dan Arbuckle and I'm a new Potter 19 owner. I live outside of Redding Ca, but have a business in Lodi and get to the Bay Area often for sailing. I'm looking forward to meeting other Potter enthusiasts and sharing ideas. I'm also planning a week-long shake down sail in the CA Delta in mid-November. I've done the route many times by kayak and canoe, and I'm looking forward to seeing the area by sailboat. Thanks for creating this community. — 



[Are you a new member, too?? [Send us](#) a short bio and photo of your boat! —Ed.]

## Potter Yachter Membership

Join the *Potter Yachters* – the club that has been around since 1978 and, with your participation, will continue to withstand the test of time. We're really a bunch of nice folks who would just love to have other nice folks join us. Your dues help support club activities and publish the newsletter, so you can join us on sails in person or vicariously through our stories. As of 2021, annual dues are \$30 per family.

Make checks payable to "Kevin Crowder", or use PayPal to [treasurer@potter-yachters.org](mailto:treasurer@potter-yachters.org), or use the link <https://www.paypal.me/sailAurora/30> and include "Potter Yachters Dues" in the notes.



Or see us online at:  
[www.potter-yachters.org](http://www.potter-yachters.org)

Send your payment (with Kevin Crowder  
your name and address) to: P.O. Box 124  
Standard, CA 95373

**Organized in Northern California in 1978, the *Potter Yachters* is the longest running West Wight Potter club. Membership is open to anyone interested in West Wight Potters and other trailerable microcruiser sailboats.**



Kevin Crowder  
P.O. Box 124  
Standard, CA 95373

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## With a Grain of Salt

The **Potter Yachter** is a forum for exchange of ideas and information among West Wight Potter (and other mini-yacht) sailors. But we Potter Yachters are mostly a bunch of amateurs finding our way by trial and error and luck.

You will probably find some very helpful tips or ideas in the **Potter Yachter** that will enhance your sailing experience, but you may also find some ill-advised suggestions or ideas that just don't work for your particular boat, your sailing environment, your level of sailing experience, or your boat-working skills. So please understand that any sailing tutorials, suggested boat modifications, recommended cruises, etc., are the opinion of the author, based presumably on his or her personal experience and judgment at the time the article or letter was written.

If a Potter Yachter believes s/he has a good idea and submits it to the newsletter for publication, we will usually pass it on to the rest of you in the newsletter, but take it "with a grain of salt" and a large portion of your own good judgment, and perhaps get a second opinion before undertaking a modification or cruise or sailing technique you read about in the **Potter Yachter** (or any other publication).

- The Editor

